

Message Text

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ACTION NASA-02

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 TRSE-00 SS-15 ACDA-05 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OES-03 /049 W
----- 109046

R 11130Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7143

CONFIDENTIAL TANANARIVE 0672

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: TSPA
SUBJECT: NASA NEGOTIATIONS

REF: STATE 82030

1. EMBASSY NOT PREPARING FURTHER INITIATIVES ON NASA NEGOTIATIONS AT THIS MOMENT.

2. DEPT AND NASA SHOULD BE AWARE THAT, PRIOR RECEIPT REFTEL, I SENT LETTER IN FRENCH APRIL 2 TO ANDRIAMAHAZO TRYING DETERMINE WHETHER FONOFF NOTE OF MARCH 26 ON NASA (TANANARIVE 0541) WAS SENT WITH HIS KNOWLEDGE OR REPRESENTED INDEPENDENT FONOFF ACTION. MAIN PURPOSE OF LETTER WAS TO TRANSMIT PRICE AND DELIVERY DATA ON MILITARY EQUIPMENT (STATE 71793) AS ANDRIAMAHAZO WAS TOO BUSY DURING MAJOR TRIAL TO RECEIVE ME PERSONALLY AND ASKED THAT DATA BE SENT TO HIM IN WRITING.

3. I TOOK ADVANTAGE OF LETTER ON MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO RAISE FONOFF NASA NOTE, STATING I WAS BIT PUZZLED BY IT SINCE HE AND I HAD DISCUSSED SUBSTANCE OF RENTAL ISSUE ON MARCH 14 AND HE HAD ASKED ME AVOID SENDING NOTES THROUGH FOREIGN OFFICE WHICH MIGHT GIVE HIM TROUBLE IN MILITARY DIRECTORY. I SAID THAT EMBASSY THEREFORE DOES NOT KNOW WHETHER TO RESPOND TO NOTE OR NOT. IF EMBASSY IS EXPECTED TO RESPOND, I STATED THAT TENOR WOULD BE ALONG LINES I HAD PERSONALLY EXPLAINED TO HIM ON MARCH 14.

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4. I CLOSED BY ASKING HIM TO LET ME KNOW WHETHER HE WANTED

NOTE ANSWERED BY EMBASSY OR LEFT IN SUSPENSE. I HAVE HAD NO WORD FROM HIM SINCE THEN.

5. SINCE ANDRIAMAHAZO REASSURED ME MARCH 14 THAT STATION WILL STAY AS LONG AS HE IS HEAD OF GOVERNMENT, I BELIEVE THAT, IN ALL LIKELIHOOD, OUR OBJECTIVE WILL BE BETTER SERVED BY TAKING OUR CUE ON TACTICS FROM HIM.

6. IT COULD WELL BECOME APPROPRIATE TO TRY NAIL DOWN AGREEMENT ON RENTAL ISSUE WITH ANDRIAMAHAZO AND PROCEED WITH NASA AGREEMENT NEGOTIATIONS AFTER CONCLUSION OF AID RAILROAD LOAN AND PL-480, TITLE I, AGREEMENTS.

7. REQUEST DEPT AUTHORIZE ME LATITUDE TO TEST THIS APPROACH WITH ANDRIAMAHAZO IF IT APPEARS APPROPRIATE TO ME AND OPPORTUNITY ARISES TO DO SO. DEPT SHOULD BEAR IN MIND THAT OPPORTUNITIES TO SEE ANDRIAMAHAZO ARE UNLIKELY TO BE FREQUENT IN VIEW OF HIS HEAVY SCHEDULE AS HEAD OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT, AND HAVE TO BE SEIZED AS THEY ARISE.

MENDENHALL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NEGOTIATIONS, TRACKING STATIONS, LEASES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975TANANA00672
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750128-0348
From: TANANARIVE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750460/aaaacddep.tel
Line Count: 81
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NASA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 82030
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 AUG 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <12 DEC 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NASA NEGOTIATIONS
TAGS: TSPA, US, MA, NASA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006